AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Replace the paragraph at the bottom of page 9, line 27 and ending of page 10, line 16, "The following ingredients .....(Milwaukee, Wisconsin)." with the following paragraph.

The following ingredients are used throughout the examples.

Starch A, a ~~hydroypropylated~~ hydroxypropylated corn starch with water fluidity of 80.

Starch B, a ~~hydroypropylated~~ hydroxypropylated waxy corn starch with water fluidity of 60.

Starch C, a ~~hydroypropylated~~ hydroxypropylated waxy corn starch, cold water soluble, with water fluidity of 75.

Starch D, a highly degraded waxy corn starch.

Starch E, a ~~hydroypropylated~~ hydroxypropylated tapioca starch with water fluidity of 40.

Starch F, a ~~hydroypropylated~~ hydroxypropylated waxy starch with water fluidity of 70.

Starch G, a ~~hydroypropylated~~ hydroxypropylated waxy starch with water fluidity of 65.

~~Kelcogel~~ KELCOGEL LT 100, a high acyl gellan gum commercially available from CP Kelco (Wilmington, Delaware).

~~Kelcogel~~ KELCOGEL F, a low acyl gellan gum commercially available from CP Kelco (Wilmington, Delaware).

~~Aerosil~~ AEROSIL 200, a silica filler commercially available from Degussa (Akron, Ohis).

~~Avicel~~ AVICEL PH 101, a micro crystalline cellulose particle commercially available from FMC (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania).

Glycerin, commercially available from Aldrich (Milwaukee, Wisconsin).

Sorbitol, commercially available from Aldrich (Millwaukee, Wisconsin).

Replace Example 1, beginning at page 10, line 18 to page 12, line 12, "Example 1 – Preparation of the blend .....in order to seal the capsules." with the following Example 1.

Example 1 – Preparation of the blend

a. A powder blend was premixed with 1.5 g of ~~Kelcogel~~ KELCOGEL LT 100, 1g of ~~Kelcogel~~ KELCOGEL F, 1g of ~~Aerosil~~ AEROSIL 200, and 30g of starch A.

The powder mixture was added into a beaker containing 18 g of glycerin dissolved in 48.5g distilled water. The total mixture was blended to form a thick paste.

The paste was then cooked under agitation at around 90°C-100°C using a steam bath for 1-2 hours until the solution became smooth, close to transparent. The final viscosity was 30,000 - 50,000 centipoise.

b. Example 1a was repeated except no ~~Aerosil~~ AEROSIL was used and the water was in an amount of 49.5. The finished viscosity and wet film strength were slightly decreased from 1a.

c. Example 1a was repeated except the starch A is replaced with starch E. The finished viscosity was 70,000 cPs. The wet film strength was slight higher than that of 1a.

d. Example 1a was repeated except glycerin was used in an amount of 13g and distilled water in an amount of 53.5g. The resultant viscosity was similar to that of 1a and the dry film had a higher modulus and less elongation than that of 1a.

e. Example 1a was repeated except 15g of sorbitol were used in place of glycerin, and distilled water was used in an amount of 51.5g. The resultant viscosity was similar to that of 1a.

f. Example 1a was repeated except the amounts of ~~Kelcogel~~ KELCOGEL LT 100, ~~Kelcogel~~ KELCOGEL F were 2g and 0.5g. The solution viscosity was increased, the wet film strength was increased, and the sealability was improved compared to 1a.

g. Example 1a was repeated except the amount of starch and water were 45g and 33.5g, respectively. The viscosity was around 15,000cps and the wet film strength was improved from 1a.

h. Example 1a was prepared except 3g of ~~Avicel~~ AVICEL PH 101 was used in place of ~~Aerosil~~ AEROSIL and the amount of water used was 46.5g. The solution viscosity was slightly increased and the wet film strength was improved from 1a.

i. Example 1a was repeated except sodium chloride was added to the water-glycerin mixture to result in a final paste with 100 milli Molar concentration of sodium chloride. The wet film strength was improved from 1a.

j. Example 1a was repeated except calcium nitrate was added to the water-glycerin mixture to result in a final paste with 10 milliMolar concentration of calcium nitrate. The wet film strength was improved from 1a.

k. Example 1a was repeated except ~~Kelcogel~~ KELCOGEL F was replaced with guar gum. The wet film strength was decrease from 1a. The example was then repeated using agar instead

of the guar gum and the wet film strength was also decreased.

l. Example 1a was prepared except the amount water was 60g. The solution viscosity was around 5000cps. The wet film strength was decreased. Further drying of the film was needed in order to seal the capsules.

Replace paragraph 5a, in Example 5, on page 13, lines 13-20, "5a The wet films ..... at 45-75°C." with the following new paragraph 5a:

5a The wet films of Example 2 were used to form capsules using a manual press, and a vegetable oil was used as an example filling. First, the film was placed on a heated metal with a small cavity, and a vacuum was used to conform the wet film to the cavity surface. The oil was then added quickly to fill the cavity. Another wet film was placed on the top. Finally, a ~~hearted~~ heated metal piece was used to press against the bottom metal piece. A capsule was formed and removed from the press. The manual press was kept at 45-75°C.